

The Christian Courier

February, 2005

Send correspondence to:
1034 S. 140th St., Seattle, WA 98168
Ph: 206-241-7493
E-mail: cocsea-tac@comcast.net

Writers are responsible for their own articles.

The Apostles' Doctrine and Fellowship

Article 1 of 4: Why?

The second chapter of Acts is very exciting. Luke tells us of the Apostles being baptized with the Holy Spirit and beginning to preach, of the first gospel sermon delivered by Peter, and the beginning of the church when about 3000 people were baptized. Then in Acts 2:42, we read how the early members of the church lived their lives. "*And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*"



What a great example that is for us to follow! It is an example we must follow in order to be pleasing to God. This is our subject for a four-part series of articles - continuing stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship.

In this first article, we will consider the question of why their doctrine and fellowship is important. The second article will address how we continue in their doctrine and fellowship. The third article will discuss what their doctrine consists of. And finally, in the fourth, we will see what happens if we do not continue in their doctrine and fellowship. We pray that these thoughts will be edifying to all.

So, why is it important to continue in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship? Why couldn't we follow other men, or even our own conscience? What is so special about the apostles?

First of all, the apostles are important because they were chosen by God Himself. That should be enough for us. But we find even more - that they were chosen by God before He even created

the world. Eph. 1:4-5, "*According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,*". Who was predestinated? Who was chosen before the foundation of the world? Those that were predestined unto the adoption of children, that is, the apostles. They fulfilled that duty in the second chapter of Acts when they began the church, and throughout their lives.

The fact that it was the apostles who were thus chosen is further born out in verses 11 and 12 of Eph. 1, "*In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.*" You see, those who first trusted in Christ - the apostles.

Verse 13 distinguishes between the apostles and the rest of us as Christians. "*In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,*". They first trusted in Christ because God chose them to. We trusted in Christ when we heard their words.

We, then, need to simply accept them and their words, Eph. 1:6, "*To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us (the apostles) accepted in the beloved.*"

So, the apostles are important because God chose them.

Secondly, the apostles are important because God chose them to be witnesses of Christ, of His teachings, of His death and burial, and of His resurrection.

We see this because when they replaced Judas Iscariot as an apostle, being such a witness was the qualification. Acts 1:20-22, "*For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.*"

They were witnesses of His teachings. Heb. 2:3, "*How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;*". (Incidentally, this verse also answers the question of whether or not Christ's teachings as recorded in the gospels are applicable to us today. Of course they are. Because what the apostles were teaching in their epistles was simply what Christ had taught them, which was recorded in the gospels.)

They were witnesses of His resurrection. Acts 2:32, "*This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.*"

So, the doctrine of the apostles is important because they were witnesses of Jesus Christ.

Thirdly, the apostles are important because God chose them to establish the church.

Yes, it was Jesus who built the church, but Jesus established it through their efforts, as He had instructed them in Matt. 28:16-20, "*Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*"

They fulfilled this instruction, beginning on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2. Peter taught exactly what Jesus told him to. Acts 2:38, "*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*" Verse 41, "*Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*"

Thus, the church was established, and even today as we are saved and added to that church, it is based on their foundation. Eph. 2:19-20, "*Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;*".

The apostles (and their doctrine and fellowship) are important to us because Jesus established the church through their efforts.

Finally, the apostles are important because God chose them to deliver His Word to mankind.

In Heb. 1:1-2, we see that God gave His Word to us through Jesus: "*God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;*".

Jesus gave God's Word through the apostles. Acts 1:1-3 "*The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:*".

The Holy Spirit reminded the apostles of what Jesus taught them, and thus guided them into all truth so they could deliver it to mankind. Note these three connected scriptures in John:

- John 14:26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." This promise is to the apostles, they are the ones He said things to.
- John 16:13, "*Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.*" If the Spirit gave all truth to the apostles, how much truth then did He have to reveal later to others? NONE!!! He guided the apostles into <u>all</u> truth. So we do not add to that.
- John 15:26-27, "*But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.*" The Spirit thus taught the apostles so they could teach the world.

The apostles accomplished their mission. They delivered God's Word to us. They preached it throughout their lives, and also wrote it down in various epistles which we still have, even today, in our Bibles.

II Pet. 1:12-15, "*Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. Moreover I will endeavour that ye*

*may be able after my decease to have these things **always** in remembrance.*" Note the word "always". Peter wrote his epistles so we could always have God's Word in remembrance. And we do still have it today.

II Pet 3:1-2, "*This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:*"

The apostle Paul tells us in I Cor. 14:37, that his doctrine is Christ's doctrine: "*If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.*"

The apostles are important because they delivered God's Word to us.

So, the apostles are important. Their doctrine and fellowship are important. They are important because they were chosen by God, because they were witnesses of Jesus Christ, because Christ established His church through them, and because they delivered God's Word to mankind.

Let's close with this thought about their doctrine, found in I Tim. 4:16, "*Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.*"

Offered in Jesus Name,
Bro. Terry Warford
22023 29th Avenue South
Des Moines, WA 98198

My Reasonable Service

If I am to live, let me live for Christ, my Savior, my King; and my hope rests in Him. I delight in His Word and strive daily to immerse myself in His righteousness and in His love. He is my Lord and my God, and I am nothing without Him.

If I am to die, let me die for Christ; they took my Lord without cause; do I deserve better? They shamed Him and mocked Him; do I deserve better? They smote Him and scourged Him; do I deserve better? They shamed Him and crucified Him do I deserve better? The answer to each of these is "NO!, for who am I? I am what He created from the dust of the earth and He is the first of creation, my Lord and my God.

If I am to be persecuted, let it be for my Lord's sake. Persecution is certain to come on me if I live according to righteousness; it comes from friends, brethren, family, and enemies. All of these I accept, but let it not come upon me from my actions or disobedience to God, for this is unprofitable for me. So if I am to be strong, I must bear persecution and give God thanks that I have been found worthy to be persecuted for His name's sake.

Jim Bryant
46450 Hwy 58
Westfir, OR 97492

The Perfect Law of Liberty

"*But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.*" (James1:25). The perfect law of liberty gives freedom of choice, or to choose. Choose what? "*Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?*" (Rom. 6:16). Even though the purpose of this message is to show what and how the law of liberty affects Christians today, we will look at some comparisons of the Old and of the New Law. There are similitude's, but very big differences in that the New Law is spiritual; the Old law is carnal.

The New: "*Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.*" (1 Pet. 2:5).

The Old: "*Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.*" (Heb. 9:9-10). The Old Law is made up of carnal ordinances.

The New Law is perfect (see James 1:25 above). It is able to save souls, "*Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.*" (James 1:21).

The Old Law could not justify nor free anyone from blame. "*And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.*" (Acts 13:39).

The Old Law had faults. "*For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.*" (Heb. 8:7). What, then, was the purpose of the Old Law? It was added until the seed should come. "*Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.*" (Gal. 3:19). The Old Law was somewhat like the earthly laws that govern us today. "*He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:*" (Heb. 10:28).

Paul encourages the Galatians not to use "*liberty for an occasion to the flesh*" (or for an opportunity of the flesh; Gal. 5:13).

Peter also warns us not to use "*liberty for a cloke of maliciousness*" (to hide or cover intentional mischievousness; 1 Pet. 2:16). An example of self-governing is the control of unnatural behavior between men and between women. "*And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;*" (Rom. 1:28). That is, if they did not wish to retain God in their knowledge (of which God strongly disapproves), they are at liberty to do those things that are unsuitable. God desires that we govern or discipline our mind.

Jesus explains that to look upon a sinful matter is as bad as doing the very act. "*Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.*" (Matt. 5:27-28).

God knows what we think. "*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the*

dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Heb. 4:12).

This is unlike the Old Law, where if there were no witnesses to a sin, or if one wasn't caught in a sinful act, there was no punishment. This was one fault with the Old Law.

With the New Law, or perfect law of liberty, God knows everything we think or do, and we will be judged accordingly. "*For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.*" (Rom. 14:11). Then Jesus said, "*He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*" (John 12:48). Also revealed in the Book of Revelation, "*And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*" (Rev. 20:12).

Harry Davis
Yuma church

In Memory of
Sis. Myra Mae Dabbs

Myra Mae Dabbs, 97, of Aztec , New Mexico, went to her Heavenly Home January 5, 2005. Myra known fondly, as "Grandma Dabbs" and loved by all, was born August 30, 1907, in Knowles, N.M., to Clarence and Armeasa Smith. She was preceded in death in 1969 by her beloved husband of almost 50 years, Calvin Roy Dabbs. Four children also preceded in death: Eugene Dabbs, Betty Thompson, Carolyn Bedingfield and Donald Dabbs. Two loving daughters survive her: Doris Ridlon and husband Frank of Aztec, N.M., and Flora Bixler of Farmington, N.M. Over 100 grandchildren, great-grand children, and countless friends and relatives will miss her dearly. Her life spanned over six generations, when her great-great-great granddaughter Haylee, was born this past November.

At the age of 16, she married her beloved Roy in Mesilla Park, N.M. They moved to Aztec N.M. in the early 1930's, but during their marriage they also lived in Colorado, Arizona, California, and throughout N.M.

The Dabbs' home was always open to a stranger and a kind heart extended to the needy, whether that need be hunger, a place to sleep, a warm hug, or a cookie. They raised 6 kids of their own and a dozen or so other people's kids.

Myra was baptized at age of 17, and continued God's service for almost a century. She was a member of the Church of Christ for 80 years. She spent all 80 years-approximately 26,000 days-preparing for her crown of righteousness.

Grandma was "a Godly Woman" in the truest sense. She awoke early to cook for her family, worked long days with eager hands and strong arms. She did not have time to be idle. She watched over the affairs of her family; sewed fine clothing and beautiful quilts for others; but for herself, she chose to be clothed with grace and dignity.

Written by her Granddaughter Roberta

In Memory of

Bro. William T. (Willie) Brockman

William T. (Willie) Brockman passed from this earthly life on November 15th, 2004. He had attended worship here the previous day, a practice he had maintained for many years. Although we miss him sorely, we can't help but rejoice that he has escaped the dreadful loneliness that pervaded his life since Rama's death last year. Thus ended a long life of dedication to his Savior and helpfulness to his fellow man. Since our congregation is small, one deletion leaves a sizeable hole.

Submitted by Eunice Bentz, sister of Willie

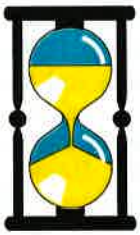
In Memory of

Sis. Wilma Buckner

Sister Wilma Buckner passed from this life January 23, 2005. She was born in 1942, was baptized into the Lord at the age of 14, and married to Bro. Gerald Buckner August 3, 1961. Her memorial was January 25th, with Bro. Gerald officiating. She was a committed and caring Christian lady, an inspiration to all who were blessed to know her. She and Gerald raised three children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, Kenneth, Jim and Christina. She was not only the mother of my best friends in school, but a wonderful friend to me as well.

Bro. Terry Warford

Precious Memories



***Gospel News Courier*, Jan., 1965.** The Modesto, CA, congregation announced the passing of Bro. Joseph Conder on November 19, 1964. The Yuma, AZ, congregation announced the passing of Sis. Effie May Splawn December 11, 1964. Bro. Howard McCay, Yakima, WA, reported on the passing of Bro. Adolph Young on October 18, 1964. He also announced the baptism of Alyce Jacobson on Sept. 27, 1964. Sis. Laura Willis, Carlsbad, NM, were happy to announce that the Paul Bruce family had moved back to Carlsbad. Bro. Hayse Morris, Kingman, AZ, listed a few recent visitors. Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, reported on their meeting where they had three baptisms (no names mentioned) and three returned to the church. He also listed several visitors.

***Gospel News Courier*, Feb., 1965.** Bro. Clyde Couchman, Carlsbad, NM, announced their meeting in April with Bro. Paul Auslam. Bro. Ken Baldwin, Cedaredge, CO, invited all to attend the Delta, CO, Camp Meeting in August. He also announced the birth of Kristie Elyda on Nov. 21, 1964, to Bro. & Sis. Ted Drysdale of Brawley, CA. Bro. W. E. Daniels, Stilwell, OK, wrote that his wife's health had been poor during the winter. Bro. John Usrey, Sacramento, CA, reported that Sis. Baker had returned to the church.

***The Christian Courier*, Jan., 1975.** The Sacramento, CA, congregation announced the passing of Bro. Curtis McCluskey on November 23, 1974. The Bellflower, CA, congregation announced the baptism of Sharilyn Perigen in October. Bro. Ray Shea, Goshen, AR, announced a four-evening debate in January between Bro. Paul Ferguson and Bro. Ellis Lindsey on the communion question.

***The Christian Courier*, Feb., 1975.** The Modesto, CA, congregation announced a meeting in March with a speaker to be announced later. The Lorenzo, TX, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. Jack White. The Yuma, AZ, congregation announced the passing of Bro. Jack Renick on Nov. 23rd. The Modesto, CA, congregation announced a meeting in March with Bro. Richard Johnston. Bro. Earl Atchley, Elk City, OK, wrote of the passing of Bro. John Spurlin on January 1st.

***The Christian Courier*, Jan., 1985.** Bro. Lloyd Treat, Broken Bow, OK, wrote that their church building remodeling is almost completed. Bro. Tony Brister, Roll, AZ, congregation announced a meeting in April with Bro. J. W. Bedingfield. Bro. Paul Andrews, Goshen, AR, reported on a discussion they had on the "breaking of the bread" with three speakers from each side. Bro. James Brown, Westville, OK, announced his retirement in June and would be available to hold meetings at anytime. Bro. Claud Perigen, Bellflower, CA, wrote that Sis. Weakly was very ill and unable to attend services. Also, the following baptisms were announced from the Selah, WA, congregation: Rick and Barbara Perry, Kelly Davis, and Shawna McKinney. Yakima, WA, announced the passing of Bro. Kelsey Markham on Nov. 19th. Bro. Markham was the first person that Bro. Howard McCay ever baptized. Penn Valley, CA, announced the passing of Sis. Grace Daugherty on Nov. 14th.

***The Christian Courier*, Feb., 1985.** Bro. Larry Wood, Lorenzo, TX, reported on their meeting with Bro. Don Ross. He also announced the birth of Carita Lynn to Bro. Steve and Sis. Oletta Spurlin on Oct. 24th, and the marriage of Bro. Cliff Boling and Sis. Leesa Howe on Sept. 29th. Bro. Don Hamett, Selah, WA, announced the baptisms on Dec. 9th of Rick Perry, Barbara Perry, their daughter, Kelly Perry, and also Shawna McKinney. The Waterford, CA, congregation announced their meeting in June with Bro. J. W. Bedingfield. The Happy Hollow, CO, congregation reported the baptism of Eddie Wilkerson on Dec. 26th. Bro. Bill McCay, Yakima, WA, announced a meeting in August with Bro. J. W. Bedingfield.

***The Christian Courier*, Jan., 1995.** Bro. Al Way, Bellflower, CA, wrote that Sis. Erelene Chessman was still fighting cancer and that Bro. Vincent Johnson was bound to a wheelchair.

***The Christian Courier*, Feb., 1995.** Bro. Bill Jared, Chesterton, IN, thanked the visitors they had the past year. He also mentioned that Bro. & Sis. Steve Kelly and family had moved there and were worshiping with them. The Lorenzo, TX, congregation reported on their meeting with Bro. Jerry Perigen. He announced the baptism of Aspen Spurlin on Nov. 27th. The Sea-Tac, WA, congregation announced the 50th anniversary of Bro. Garold Morris and his wife. They also mentioned the move of Bro. Matthew and Sis. Kelly Shepherd and family to Vancouver, WA. Bro. Audley Barnes, Comanche, OK, reported on their meeting with Bro. Errol Forsman. Bro. Jim Brown, Baron, OK, reported on their meeting with guest speakers.



Cards and Letters

Baron, OK

To all the brothers and sisters in Christ,

This will be my first time writing news for the paper. Just thought we here at Baron, OK, would let you know we are doing fairly well. Bro. Jim Brown has had to have a pacemaker, but is doing some better now. Sis. Lectie (Ross) Denny is in the nursing home in Stilwell, OK. Her health is not very good. My Bro. Darrell Wilson has just been released from the hospital with pneumonia.

We are always praying the church will grow in number, as well as strength. False teaching, the devil, and the ways of the world fight a hard battle against us. We give God thanks daily for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We're sending a little help with the paper. Hope and pray that all other faithful congregations are doing well. Also, Sue's sister, Wilma Buckner, is very ill. All need your prayers, as we pray for you.

Anyone coming our way, we welcome you to come and visit us at Baron. I live about 35 miles away, but you're always welcome in our home. Others will welcome you also.

For the Baron, OK, congregation, with love,

Doyle Wilson

35956 S. Cedar Circle W.

Cookson, OK 74427

Phone: 918-457-4495

Note: The letter was wonderful. We're so glad to hear from you. Please write often.

— Editor

Broken Bow, OK

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

We hope and pray that everyone is doing well. We have some good news, last Sunday, October 10th, we had a baptism. Kachton Queen, the daughter of Randy Queen and the granddaughter of Ray & Rita Queen, was added to the body of Christ. She is a wonderful girl who we enjoy having worship with us.

We are also having a meeting on November 12-14th at 7:00 p.m. nightly. I doubt it will make the paper in time but that is entirely our fault. I do believe that the Stilwell congregation is having a meeting the week-end before, November 5-7th with Bro. Rex Mickey. The Olde Town Church of Christ is having a meeting October 29th-31st. with Bro. Rex Mickey. That is located in Van Buren, Arkansas.

I don't think we ever announced the birth of Michayla Ann Harcrow to Bro. & Sis. Mike & Melissa Harcrow on March 7th. She is the granddaughter of Bro. & Sis. Floyd & Jean Camp.

In February, Bro. & Sis. Charlie & Julie Fogg are expecting their first baby & in March, Bro. Paul & Sis. Crystal Warford are expecting their second.

Bro. Jesse Phipps' speech & drama team took first in Regionals with their one act comedy. They go to state on October 29th.

Bro. Doug Ferguson lost his brother, John (Buddy) Ferguson recently. He was a good man who will be missed by many.

We have had some sickness here but everyone seems to be better now. Bro. Ray Queen has been doing better for awhile now. Thank you for all of your prayers. Bro. Floyd Camp also seems to be in better health. Hope you can come & see us soon. We welcome any visitors at any time.

In Christian Love,
Costilow St. Church of Christ
Broken Bow, OK

Cedaredge, CO

December's news from Cedaredge. We had a good Thanksgiving with much to thank the Lord for. However, as we enter the December holiday period, we do so with sadness. Brother Eddie Wilkerson has been feeling poorly for awhile. A couple weeks ago he was diagnosed with cancer. It's in his abdominal cavity and has invaded a number of organs. He has taken massive doses of chemotherapy in the hospital and is now at home. He continues with the treatments. The plan is to do another CAT scan in thirty days followed by his doctor's reevaluation. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. Each prayer will be a blessing. Sister Diane is holding up as well as can be expected. Their son, Joseph, had previously taken a leave from the Navy and will be home soon. That's sure to cheer him up

Happy holidays to all,
George Cowger

"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country"
(Prov 25:25)

Gleed, WA

Just a quick note to let you all know how everyone is doing here. There has been quite a bit of sickness going around. Several of our young children, as well as some of the adults, have had pneumonia and other respiratory problems and flu in the past several weeks, but all seem to be getting better now. Sis. Dorothy Sage is pretty weak, but her spirits are high, especially when someone comes to see her.

I am still not doing very well, but am trying to keep my spirits up. I had another round of kidney stones the other day. I am going to have lithotripsy (they explode the stones, making them easier to pass) on one side on February 1st. The other side will have to wait for a month, or so. I will be going back to the University in March to again try to find out what is causing the pain in my groin. The surgery I had in September does not seem to have helped.

We are continuing to work on our building, and getting together for fellowship with brothers and sisters, trying to further the work of our heavenly Father.

There isn't really a lot to write about this time of year. This is our quiet time, as far as activities go. People are busy at home trying to keep the snow moved and keeping warm. Although, we really cannot complain about our winter, so far. We have had some snow, but in smaller amounts, so it is easy to take care of, and it has not really been too cold for long periods of time. Next spring, we may be hurting because of the lack of snow, though, when our water supply is running low!

Remember to keep all those who are ill, whether in body or in spirit, in your prayers, as we will continue to keep all of you in our prayers.

Love to you all,
Robert Farley, Gleed, WA, congregation

Sea-Tac, WA

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Just a few words to let everyone know how we are doing here at the Sea-Tac congregation. Sis. Jeanne Boroff is still experiencing severe hip pain and weakness. She is able to attend services occasionally. Sis. Jeannean McSwane is back in the hospital for a few weeks. Infection settled in her right knee after she had knee replacement surgery. They had to remove the artificial knee, put in a spacer, then try to attack the infection. It's not easy to get along with a leg that you cannot bend. That's three knee surgeries in January. Jeannean is in a lot of pain and certainly can use your prayers. Once they get the infection cleared up, they will put in a new artificial knee. Sis. Odessa Honorable is experiencing severe back pain because of her arthritis. They all could use your prayers.

Bro. Blake (14) and Stephanie (12) McKinney lost their mother, Malinda, over a week ago after a long battle with leukemia.

Some from here went to Yakima in October for the funeral of Eva Roby.

We received word from Lorenzo, TX, that Bro. Cliff & Sis. Leesa Boling lost nearly everything when their house burned. Also that Sis. Wynetta McCay underwent knee replacement surgery.

We received word from Gleed, WA, that Sis. Evelyn Lamb had a heart attack on the evening of February 3rd. We all wish her well on her recovery.

We have had a mild winter, so far. Not much rain, snow, or very cold weather. There is some concern that unless we get a lot more snow in the mountains, there will be some water rationing this next summer (no watering the lawns). We have had flowers already in bloom; way too early for this part of the country.

That's about all the news, for now.
With love,
The Sea-Tac, WA, congregation

Yuma, AZ

Dear brothers and sisters,

A short message from Yuma in hopes all are well or healing. We here are doing well with the exception of Sis. Iris Stewart, who has been diagnosed with colon cancer. Please include her in your prayers; prayers do heal.

Bro. Harry Booth is back with us. We are all glad to have him back with us.

Sunday, the 7th of December, Bro. Tony Brister, wife Sis. Louise, daughter Sis. Jackie & children were with us. Tony gave the lesson, which was very good. I'm so pleased with the younger men from Tacna and Yuma doing so well. I've watched them from baptism until now, and it is gratifying to know there are capable, steadfast, and willing men to carry on with the churches.

We have had some wet and cold weather of late, but it is getting more normal. Our desert will transform to a beautiful green and wildflower garden.

There have been several that have expressed their intent to attend our meeting, good Lord willing, on March 20-27, 2005. This would give opportunity to spend some quality time visiting, worshiping, singing, and sampling the ladies' good cooking. We invite you all; all are welcome.

Don't have much news, so bye for now. Keep the faith, and pray one for another.

The church in Yuma, AZ

Bulletin Board

Meetings

March 20-27, 2005	Yuma, AZ	Guest Speakers
July 16-25, 2005	Beaver's Bend, OK	Camp Meeting

Births

Michayla Ann to Bro. Mike & Sis. Melissa	Broken Bow, OK	March 7, 2004

Baptisms

Kachton Queen	Broken Bow, OK	October 10, 2004

Passings

Eva Roby	Yakima, WA	October, 2004
William T. Brockman	Chico, CA	November 15, 2004
Myra Mae Dabbs	Aztec, NM	January 5, 2005
Wilma Buckner	Baron, OK	January 23, 2005

Prayer of Faith for those in need

Duane Bixler	Aztec, NM	Alzheimer's disease
Lectie Denny	Baron, OK	In nursing home
Darrell Wilson	Baron, OK	Pneumonia
Floyd Camp	Broken Bow, OK	Heart attack
Ray Queen	Broken Bow, OK	Health problems
Eddie Wilkerson	Cedaredge, CO	Fighting cancer
Dorothy Sage	Gleed, WA	Weak
Robert Farley	Gleed, WA	Pain
Wynetta McCay	Lorenzo, TX	Knee replacement
Stephen Perigen	Oakdale, CA	Fighting cancer
Jeanne Boroff	Sea-Tac, WA	Severe hip pain & weakness
Jeannean McSwane	Sea-Tac, WA	Knee replacement, infection, & arthritis
Odessa Honorable	Sea-Tac, WA	Arthritis pain
Barbara Paseman	Springfield, OR	Fighting cancer
Vivian Baker	Waterford, CA	Fighting cancer
Kaye Guyer	Waterford, CA	Not doing good
Jean Orendorff	Yuma, AZ	Ill for some time
Iris Stewart	Yuma, AZ	Fighting colon cancer